

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No. 359.6559USU

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

EASY OPEN CONTAINER CLOSURE

the specification of which

(check one) XX is attached hereto.

_____ was filed on _____ as Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to the examination of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate(s) listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate(s) having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

<u>Prior Foreign Application(s)</u>			<u>Priority Claimed</u>
_____	_____	_____	Yes No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Mon/Year Filed)	
_____	_____	_____	Yes No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Mon/Year Filed)	
_____	_____	_____	Yes No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Mon/Year Filed)	

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

009250-0506560

<u>60/136,332</u>	<u>May 26, 1999</u>	<u>Pending</u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status - patent, pend., abandon.)
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status - patent, pend., abandon.)
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status - patent, pend., abandon.)

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

NAMES	REGISTRATION NUMBERS
Paul D. Greeley	31,019
Charles N.J. Ruggiero	28,468
Harry F. Smith	32,493

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:	DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:
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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	LAST NAME WALTERS, JR.	FIRST NAME LAWRENCE	MIDDLE NAME S.
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY WOODBIDGE	STATE OR COUNTRY CT	CITIZENSHIP USA
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	P.O. ADDRESS 505 AMITY ROAD	CITY & STATE WOODBIDGE, CT	ZIP CODE 06525

Inventor's signature:  Date: May 26, 2000
Lawrence S. Walters, Jr.

009250-05067500

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant or Patentee: **LAWRENCE S. WALTERS, JR.**

Serial or Patent No Not Yet Assigned Docket No.: 359.6559USU

Filed or Issued: Herewith

For: **EASY OPEN CONTAINER CLOSURE**

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 CFR §§1.9(f) and 1.27(b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR §1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled **EASY OPEN CONTAINER CLOSURE**

described in

☒ the specification filed herewith
☐ Application, Serial No.: _____, filed: _____
☐ Patent No.: _____, issued: _____

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR §1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR §1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR §1.9(e).

Such person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ no such person, concern, or organization.
☐ persons, concerns, or organizations listed below.*

*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern, or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR §1.27).

FULL NAME: **LAWRENCE S. WALTERS, JR.**
ADDRESS: **505 AMITY ROAD
WOODBIDGE, CONNECTICUT 06525**

(XXX) INDIVIDUAL [] SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN [] NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR §1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

LAWRENCE S. WALTERS, JR.
NAME OF INVENTOR


SIGNATURE

MAY 26, 2000
DATE

009250-052600